

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LIMA 07431 01 OF 02 092017Z

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ACTION INR-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 DODE-00 /014 W

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R 091910Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6736

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 LIMA 7431

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINR, PE

SUBJECT: BIO SHETCHES OF GOP OFFICIALS

REF: LIMA 7257

FOLLOWING ARE BIOGRAPHIC SKETCHES OF SOME KEY FIGURES IN NEW
GOP ADMINISTRATIONS. PLBRL'S ARE REFERENCED IF APPLICABLE.

1. PRIME MINISTER: ARMY MAJ. GEN. OSCAR VARGAS PRIETO
(PLBRL SEPT. 8, 1972). FORMERLY PRESIDENT OF THE ARMED FORCES
JOINT COMMAND, VARGAS IS WIDELY REGARDED AS AN EXTREMELY COM-
PETENT OFFICER (FIRST IN CLASS AT PERUVIAN MILITARY ACADEMY)
AND HAS A REPUTATION FOR PROBITY AND MILITARY CORRECTNESS.
WHILE COMPTROLLER GENERAL OF PERU, HE IS SAID TO HAVE
ANGERED VELASCO BY POINTING OUT THAT IT IS ILLEGAL FOR CABINET
OFFICERS TO DRAW MINISTERIAL AND MILITARY SALARIES AT THE SAME
TIME. VARGAS STUDIED AT COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE
AT FT. LEAVENWORTH IN 1955-56 AND REPORTEDLY FOUND THE
EXPERIENCE INVALUABLE. ALTHOUGH A STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE
REVOLUTION, HE IS REGARDED AS FRIENDLY TOWARD U.S. HE HAS
WORKED CLOSELY AND ESTABLISHED EXCELLENT PROFESSIONAL AND
PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH AN AID CONTRACT ADVISER TO PERU'S
COMPTROLLER'S OFFICE. VARGAS COMES FROM A POOR FAMILY. HE
WAS BORN IN MOQUEGUA AUGUST 8, 1917. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS
FOUR CHILDREN. RETIRES FEBRUARY 1, 1976.

2. MINISTER OF ENERGY AND MINES: ARMY MAJ. GEN. LUIS LA VERA
VELARDE (PLBRL JULY 23, 1975). HE WAS FORMERLY COMMANDER OF
THE IMPORTANT THIRD MILITARY REGION, WHICH INCLUDES AREQUIPA
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PAGE 02 LIMA 07431 01 OF 02 092017Z

AND FRONTS ON CHILE AND BOLIVIA. FROM 1971-74, WHILE IN
CHARGE OF ORDEZA, THE GOVERNMENT AGENCY RESPONSIBLE FOR RE-

DEVELOPING THE ZONE AFFECTED BY THE DEVESTATING 1970 EARTH-
QUAKE, LA VERA WORKED CLOSELY WITH AID OFFICIALS AND EARNED
THEIR HIGHEST RESPECT. TO HIS CREDIT, HE MOVED THE HEAD-
QUARTERS OF ORDEZA TO HUARAZ, THE AFFECTED AREA, RATHER
THAN RUNNING OPERATIONS FROM LIMA, WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN
BUREAUCRATICALLY PERMISSIBLE. LA VERA IS REGARDED AS HARD-
WORKING AND HONEST AND HAS EARNED DEEP RESPECT FOR HIS
ADMINISTRATIVE ABILITY. HE MAKES A GOOD PUBLIC APPEARANCE,
IS AN EXCELLENT SPEAKER, AND ESTABLISHED WARM RELATIONS WITH
THE GENERAL PUBLIC IN THE EARTHQUAKE ZONE. AT A TIME WHEN
IT WAS NOT POPULAR TO DO SO, HE PUBLICLY CREDITED THE U.S.
FOR ITS ASSISTANCE TO ORDEZA. HE IS REGARDED AS A NATIONALIST
WITH DISCERNIBLE FRIENDLY SENTIMENTS TOWARD THE U.S. HE
WAS BORN IN AREQUIPA ON JULY 13, 1921. HE IS MARRIED AND
HAS TWO DAUGHTERS. RETIRES FEBRUARY 1, 1978.

3. INTERIOR MINISTER: ARMY BRIG. GEN. CESAR CAMPOS QUESADA
(PRBRL BEING PREPARED). HE WAS FORMERLY CHIEF OF PERU'S
DELEGATION TO THE INTER-AMERICAN DEFENSE BOARD OF THE OAS.
FROM 1971-74, WHILE SERVING AS LOGISTICS DIRECTOR FOR THE ARMY
GENERAL STAFF, CAMPOS SLOPED WARM RELATION-
SHIPS WITH RUSSIAN MILITARY ATTACHES, WHILE STAYING ALOOF FROM THEIR
AMERICAN COUNTERPARTS. HE TRAVELED TO THE U.S. WITH THE
PERUVIAN WAR COLLEGE (CAEM) CLASS IN 1967 AND SPEAKS AND
WRITES FAIR ENGLISH (AS WELL AS FRENCH). HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD
THE U.S. IS CONSIDERED DISTINCTLY COOL. HIS FEELINGS ABOUT
THE U.S.- PERU ANTI-DRUG EFFORT ARE FAVORABLE ACCORDING TO
PERUVIAN NARCOTICS OFFICIALS, BUT WE CANNOT YET BE CERTAIN.
HE IS MARRIED AND HAS A MARRIED DAUGHTER, WHO MAY BE A U.S.
RESIDENT. HE WAS BORN JAN 17, 1917. RETIRES FEB 1, 1976.

4. MINISTER OF INDUSTRY AND TOURISM: ARMY BRIG GEN. GASTON
IBANEZ O'BRIEN (PLBRL MARCH 21, 1972). IBANEZ WAS FORMERLY
DIRECTOR OF DOCTRINE AND TRAINING FOR THE ARMY. IN 1973-74,
HE WAS COMMANDER OF PERU'S MID-EAST PEACE-KEEPING CONTINGENT.
BEFORE THAT, WHILE DIRECTOR OF THE ARMY'S SUPERIOR WAR SCHOOL,
HE MAINTAINED A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP WITH EMBASSY'S ARMY ATTACHE.
HE IS JOVIAL, INTELLIGENT, AND WIDELY-READ. HE IS REGARDED
AS A NATIONALIST BUT NOT AN IDEOLOGUE AND WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD U.S.
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PAGE 03 LIMA 07431 01 OF 02 092017Z

AFTER A MOSCOW TRIP IN 1972, HE SAID, "ONLY A FOOL WOULD LIVE
THERE." IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFFS IN 1974, HE IS
THOUGHT TO HAVE ACTED AS AN INTELLECTUAL "STALKING HORSE" FOR
MORALES BERMUDEZ. AT THAT TIME HE ASKED SEARCHING QUESTIONS
ABOUT ECONOMICS -- HOW BEST TO CONTROL INFLATION, THE EFFECT
OF IMPORT CREDITS, ETC. HE ALSO REMARKED THAT THERE WAS A
DANGER THAT VELASCO WAS BEING "PUFFED UP" BY A CLAQUE OF
SUPPORTERS AND THOUGHT ONE DAY HE MIGHT "BURST" LIKE A BALLOON.
HE ATTENDED COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF COLLEGE IN THE U.S. AND
SPEAKS AND WRITES FAIR ENGLISH. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE

CHILDREN. HE WAS BORN JAN 15, 1923. RETIRES FEB 1, 1980.

5. FISHERIES MINISTER: REAR ADMIRAL FRANCISCO MARIATEGUI ANGULO (PLBRL FEB 28, 1973). FORMERLY DIRECTOR OF SOCIAL WELFARE FOR THE NAVY, MARIATEGUI IS A SHORT (5'7"), THICK-SET (167 POUNDS) MAN WHO IS ILL-DISPOSED TOWARD SMALL TALK. HE IS KNOWN AS AN ANATIONALIST WHO IS EXTREMELY "PRO-NAVY". HE HAS BEEN HEARD TO CRITICIZE EQUALLY "IMPERIALISM" AND "COMMUNISM" AS THREATS TO PERU. HE IS NOT REGARDED AS ANTI-U.S., ALTHOUGH IN 1965, AFTER MARIATEGUI HAD IMBIBED THREE HIGHBALLS, A U.S. NAVY OFFICER FOUND HIM HIGHLY CRITICAL OF CERTAIN U.S. REPRESENTATIVES IN LATIN AMERICA, WHOM HE CHARACTERIZED AS HIGH-HANDED, DICTATORIAL, AND INSINCERE. MARIATEGUI AND HIS WIFE ARE FROM ARISTOCRATIC FAMILIES. THEY HAVE FOUR CHILDREN -- TWO SONS ARE NAVY OFFICERS. HE WAS BORN SEPT. 28, 1925.

6. MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE: DR. HUIS BARUA CASTANEDA (THE REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT'S FIRST CIVILIAN CABINET MINISTER). A LONG-TIME MORALES BERMUDEZ PROTEGE, BARUA WAS FORMERLY HEAD OF COFIDE, PERU'S DEVELOPMENT BANK. BEFORE THAT, HE WAS PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE BANCO POPULAR. HE ALSO FORMED PART OF THE MORALES BERMUDEZ "BRAIN TRUST" WHEN THE LATTER HELD THE ECONOMY AND FINANCE PORTFOLIO. BARUA IS A PROFESSIONAL ECONOMIST AND HAS REPORTEDLY TAKEN COURSES IN SUCH FIELDS AS NATIONAL ACCOUNTS AND BALANCE OF PAYMENTS AT THE IMF IN WASHINGTON. HE HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING EXTREMELY INTELLIGENT AND HARD-WORKING. ON THE OTHER HAND, BARUA HAS STRUCK ONE EMBOFF, WHO ADMITTEDLY HAS MET HIM ONLY BRIEFLY, AS BEING "LANGUID AND SOMEWHAT SUPERCILIOUS". A PERSON WHO KNOWS HIM BETTERS SAYS THIS IS NOT SO BUT THAT BARUA DOES HAVE A CONTEM-
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PAGE 04 LIMA 07431 01 OF 02 092017Z

PLATIVE DISPOSITION AND TO BE AN EFFECTIVE ADMINISTRATOR WILL NEED A DEDICATED, SELF-STARTING STAFF. HE READS AND UNDERSTANDS ENGLISH FAIRLY WELL BUT SPEAKS IT POORLY. BARUA IS 48 YEARS OLD, MARRIED, AND HAS FOUR CHILDREN.

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PAGE 01 LIMA 07431 02 OF 02 092106Z

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ACTION INR-07

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FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6737

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 LIMA 7431

7. SINOMOS DIRECTOR: ARMY BRIG. GEN. LUIS CISNEROS VIZQUERRA (PLBRL FEB 7, 1974). FORMERLY, SICNEROS WAS CHIEF OF OPERATINS AND PLANS FOR THE ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF. EARLIER, WHILE COMMANDING GENERAL OF THE FOURTH LIGHT DIVISION OF THE SECOND MILITARY REGION, HE MET WITH, AND FAVORABLY IMPRESSED, THE U.S. AID DIRECTOR. AT THIS MEETING (IN LATE 1974), CISNEROS SEEMED WELL-DISPOSED TOWARD THE U.S. BUT CRITICIZED IT FOR THINKING IT COULD BUY GRATITUDE AND FREINDSHIP. HE LOOKED TOWARD A MORE OPEN DIALOGUE BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. TURNING TO DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, HE REGRETTED THAT THE PROFESSIONAL AND MIDDLE CLASSES WERE BECOMING ALIENATED BY THE VELASCO GOVERNMENT AND EXPRESSED THE NEED FOR TOLERATING DISAGREEMENT AND LISTENING TO DIFFERENT VIEWPOINTS WITHIN THE REVOLUTIONARY FRAMEWORK. THE EMBASSY'S MILITARY ATTACHES HAVE ALSO FOUND CISNEROS PLEASANT AND COOPERATIVE. HE WAS BORN JANUARY 23, 1926. HE IS MARRIED AND HAS FIVE CHILDREN. RETIRES FEB 1, 1983.

8. SINADI DIRECTOR: ARMY MAJOR GENERAL LEONIDAS RODRIGUEZ FIGUEROA (PLBRL JAN 7, 1970). IN ADDTION TO HIS NEW RESPONSIBILITIES, RODRIGUEZ RETAINS HIS POSITION AS COMMANDER OF THE SECOND MILITARY REGION (WHIAHC ICNLDES LIMA). HE HAS A REPUTATION FOR BEING A MILITANT NATIONALIST WHO, ALTHOUGH ADMIRING THE U.S. MILITARY, RESENTS U.S. "ECONOMCI AGGRESSION", BECAUSE OF HIS RADICAL STATEMENTS (WHICH FREQUENTLY HAVE HAD A DISTINT ANTI-U.S. FLAVOR), HE IS TERMED BY SOME "THE RED LION". SPEAKING TO LIMA NEWSPAPER DIRECTORS RECENTLY, HOWEVER, RODRIGUEZ SAID, "I AM NOT SYMPATHETIC TOWARD COMMUNSM NOR AM I PRO-COMMUNIST." HE IS FORMER SINAMOS DIRECTOR AND WAS ONCE NUMBER TWO MAN IN THE COAP, THE CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 LIMA 07431 02 OF 02 092106Z

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE. SEVERAL MONTHS BEFORE THE CHANGE OF GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, RODRIGUEZ REPORTEDLY SLIPPED INTO DISFAVOR WITH VELASCO. IN 1969, WHEN HE SUFFERED FROM A STOMACH ULCER, RODRIGUEZ SOUGHT TREATMENT AT WALTER REED, BUT WAS DENIED. HE DID NOT AVAIL HIMSELF OF AN ALTERNATIVE OFFER FOR ADMITTANCE TO GORGAS HOSPITAL IN THE CANAL ZONE. HE WAS BORN APRIL 16, 1921, NEAR CUZCO. HE IS SAID TO SPEAK QUECHUA. HE IS MARRIED AND

HAS THREE CHILDREN. RETIRES FEBRUARY 1, 1980.

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